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2652

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor : Zine-Eddine Boutaghou et al.

Appln. No. : 09/553,220

Filed : April 20, 2000

Title : BENDING MICROACTUATOR HAVING
A TWO-PIECE SUSPENSION DESIGN

Docket No. : I69.12-0433

Group Art Unit: 2652

Examiner: A. Castro

Technology Center 2600

DEC 13 2001

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AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail No.: EL 763829742 US

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 2, 2001. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 8-20 with the following paragraph (marked up version attached in Appendix):

B1
In a second preferred embodiment of the present invention, the bending motor 32 is constructed using an oppositely poled piece of electric piezoelectric element. In this embodiment, the piezoelectric element is poled in one direction on a first longitudinal half and is poled in the opposite direction on the other longitudinal half. In this embodiment, only a single top electrode and a single bottom electrode are necessary for operation. The bending motion results from the opposite effect of the electric field on each half of the piezoelectric element. This oppositely poled piezoelectric element embodiment is further discussed in U.S. patent application serial number 09/553,523, filed on April 20, 2000 by Murphy, Budde, Mangold, and Crane entitled "IN-PLANE SUSPENSION-LEVEL BENDING MICROACTUATOR FOR PRECISE HEAD POSITIONING,"